

BRITISH PORTS ALL IN DANGER OF SUBMARINES

Extension of Raids to Irish Sea Causes Grave Ap- prehension

BELFAST SAILINGS ARE SUSPENDED

Lusitania and Transylvania
Nearing Liverpool, Be-
lieved in Danger.

RAIDERS HAVE ALMOST ENCIRCLED ISLANDS

German Undersea Craft Is Sighted Just Off Southport.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.
LONDON, Feb. 1.—England is suffering from a case of nerves as a result of the recent submarine and Zeppelin raids. Dover had its turn this evening. The sudden reap of a gun in one of the harbor

The facts seem to be that the steamship tried to enter the harbor

harbor without complying with the harbor regulations, drawing the attention of the gunners. The vessel was not damaged.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Feb. 1.—With the incursion of the German submarine U-21 into the Irish Sea scarcely a British port can be called secure from attack by the German undersea boats. In the action to-

of the war these vessels confined the operations to the North Sea and generally to those parts of it which were not too far removed from the German base at the mouth of the Elbe. The *Cressy*, *Aboukir* and *Hogue* were sunk in these waters, the *Hawke* was sunk in the

The first reported activity of hostile submarines along the British coast was the sinking of the torpedo gunboat *Nile* in the Downs, off Deal, only two miles from shore, on November 11. About the same time submarines were reported to have been sighted off the north coast of Ireland. Since that time flotillas of

vessels have been reported in attempt to enter the Firth of Forth, where the great naval base of Rosyth is situated and Dover harbor. The Formidable was off Plymouth when she was sunk on New Year's Day.

The present campaign against British merchant vessels appears to be centred at two points, one in the vicinity of Liverpool, to which a great part of the shipping of ports on the Channel and North Sea has been transferred to make room for the transportation of troops to the Continent, and one off Havre. The continued presence of the under-

water destroyers near Liverpool is a
testified by a despatch from Southport.
seaside resort on the Irish Sea, eighteen
miles north of Liverpool, which says
that a German submarine, thought to
be the U-21, was sighted off that po-
early this morning.

That the seriousness of this ne-
menace to British shipping is recognize-
fully by the Admiralty and the chan-

men is shown in the preparations which are being made for destroyer and light cruiser convoys for merchant vessels and a great and sudden advance in insurance rates. At Lloyd's the Atlantic rate, which ordinarily is 5 shillings per cent. (\$1.25), has advanced to 10 shillings and some underwriters are asking

Among the vessels now nearing Liverpool, and which will run the risk of 15 shillings per cent., though most of the business is being done at the lower figure. Liverpool underwriters have raised the insurance rates on coastwise vessels to 20 shillings per cent.

Rumors that three or four hostile submarines are active in the Irish Sea have not been confirmed, and so far as can be learned at present the U-boat alone is responsible for the partial stoppage of traffic between England and

Reports of other raiders have come from several ships which on passing Anglesey signalled the South Stack light house that there were three submarines in St. George's Channel. The statements are being investigated.

Mail service between Holyhead and

Dublin is still in operation. The mail boat Leinster, which was chased by a submarine last night, and the Northern Western Railway's passenger boat boat left Dublin this forenoon and arrived safely at Holyhead, where the office of the Leinster related the story.

yesterday's chase. They said that the passengers were below and unaware of the narrow escape of the vessel. The Leinster's officers watched sharply on her trip to-day, but saw nothing of the submarines.

announced this evening that its service between Holyhead and Dublin and Holyhead and Greenock had been cancelled until further notice. The City of Dublin Steam Packet Company has abandoned its sailings connecting Belfast, Liverpool and Glasgow for the time being.

Belfast is now getting no overseas service. The military authorities have now closed the port, but the steamship companies are unwilling to take the risk. The last boat between Fleetwood and Belfast left Belfast Saturday afternoon. No boat left Fleetwood.

No boat left Fleetwood yesterday or today. Fifty passengers, including son